THE CHARGE GIVEN TO THE COMMITTEE Of the County of ESSEX.

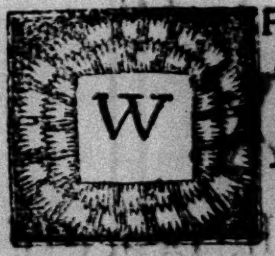
For the preservation of the peace of the Kingdome and for the seizing of Armes, Ammunition, Plate and Money, from the disturbers thereof.

ORdered by the Lords and Commons that this be forthwith printed and published.

Iohn Brown, Hen. Elsyng. Cler. Par.

LONDON,
Printed for *Richard Best October*, 6. 1642.

Instructions agreed upon by the Lords and Commons Assembled in Parliament for the County of *Essex*, &c.



Whereas it doth appeare to the Lords and Commons now assembled in Parliament, that the King seduced by wicked Counsell, hath raised War against the Parliament, and other his good subjects, and hath drawne together great Troopes of Papists and ill-affected persons, and sent out Commissions for the levying of others, to the great hazard of Religion, and the publicke peace of the Kingdome.

You shall take speciall care therefore that the Ordinance concerning the *Militia* be from time to time put in execution through the said County of *Essex* as you shall see cause; And for that purpose, you or any two or more of you shall have power and authority to Arme, Traine, and put in readinesse all and every the inhabitants of that County fit for the Warre, aswell Trained Bands as other Volunteers both Horse and Foote, and them under the Command of such Colonells, Lievtenant-Colonells, Serjeant Majors, Captaines, and other Officers, as the Lievtenant of the said County, or you or any three or more of you shall in his absence nominate and appoint to lead and conduct, aswell against all Forraign Forces that shall in Hostile manner invade the said County, as for resisting and opposing of all other Forces which shall be either within the said County or else-where raised to the disturbance of the peace of the County.

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County. And the Sheriffe and all other Officers of the said County are hereby enjoyned to assist you, and every of you therein. And if any person whatsoever shall levy or endeavour to levy or billet any Souldiers, or to raise, draw, or keepe together the Trayned-Bands or other Armed Forces of the said County, or any other Forces by colour or pretence of any Commission or Warrant from His Majesty under the great Seale or otherwise, without Order or consent of both Houses of Parliament, You are to make knowne to the Trained-Bands, or other inhabitants of the said Countey, that those who shall appeare upon any such Warrant, or obey an such Commission shall be held disturbers of, and enemies to the publicke peace, and those who shall not appeare upon any such Warrant or Commission, nor doe any thing in execution thereof, shall be protected by both Houses of Parliament. And you or any one or more of you shall in the name, and by the Authority of both Houses of Parliament require and command all persons to forbeare the execution of such Commission or Warrant, and to cause the same to be delivered up to you, or any of you, to be sent to the Speaker of the House of Commons, and you or any two or more of you, are hereby required to draw together such of the Trained Bands or other Forces of the said County as shall be expedient for the suppressing of all such Assemblies, and for the apprehending of all or any person or persons as shall after admonition and command by you or any of you made unto them, to forbeare the execution of any such Commission or Warrant, or the calling, or gathering, or keeping together of any such Forces or assemblies still persist in doing the same, and likewise such as shall beare Armes by colour of any Warrant or Commission from His Majesty under the Great Seale or otherwise, without Order or consent of both Houses of Parliament, and also such disaffected persons as shall be found raising any parties or factions against the Parliament, to be sent up hither to answer such their Offences as to Law and justice shall appeare.

You or any one or more of you, shall stay, search, and examine, or cause to be staid, searched, and examined, all suspitious persons and carriages, and to search or cause to be searched all suspicious places, and to seize upon all Horses, Armes, Ammunition, Money, Plate, or other provisions whatsoever, which you or any one of you shall have just cause to suspect, is or are raised or provided for

the fomenting or maintayning any such unnaturall and unlawfull War against the Parliament and the Kingdom.

You or any two or more of you, shall observe and execute the Ordinance of both Houses of Parliament of the eighth of *August* last for the suppression of the Rebellion, and Commotion raised by the Marquesse of *Hartford* in the County of *Somersetshire*, and other Westerne Counties, and by the Earle of *Northampton* and others in the County of *Leicester*, *Northampton*, *Warwicke*, and other adjoyning parts, and of any other Rebellion or Commotion raised or that shall be raised by any other person or persons within the said County of

You, or any two or more of you, shall conduct and leade all such Forces of Horse and Foote as shall be appointed by the Lord Generall the Earle of *Essex* for the service of the Parliament and Kingdome, and shall fight with, kill and slay all such as shall by force oppose you, or any of you, in the execution of that Ordinance, and all other their Assistants and Ayders, and abettors, and you or two of you shall levie such other Forces of Horse and Foote as his Excellence shall by his Commission give you power to levie under such Colonells, Commanders, and other Officers as shall bee by him appointed or directed; and you shall pursue the Traitors, and Rebels and their Adherents in the said County or in any other places or Counties of the Kingdome into which they shall retire themselves; all which Forces so to be raised shall have the same pay as the rest of the Army is to have; and you shall defend and protect His Majesties Subjects from violence and oppression by the illegall Commission of Array or otherwise, and you shall hinder and forbid the execution of that illegall Commission, and in all places to the utmost of your power endeavour to preserve and restore the peace of the Kingdom.

You or any one of you shall take from the said rebells and Traytors all such Armes, Ordnance, and Amunition as they have taken from His Majesties Subjects, and restore the same to the Owners.

You or any one or more of you shall take care that such resolutions and Orders of both Houses as have been or shall be delivered or sent down unto you or any of you be put in execution, and shall require the Sheriffs and Justices of the peace, and all other his Majesties,

*EC65.G79af.1642

Officers and Subjects of the said County to be ayding and assisting unto you and every of you for that purpose.

You shall likewise declare unto all men, that it hath ever been, and still shal be the care and endeavours of the Parliament to provide for His Majesties safety, and that they do not, nor never did know of any evil intended towards His Majesties person, which might move him to require an extraordinary Guard, that his greatest safety is in the affections and fidelity of His Subjects, and in the advice and counsel of His Parlament; and His greatest danger in withdrawing himselfe to such disaffected and malignant persons, obnoxious to justice for their great enormities, who under colour of doing Him service have raised forces which they labour to encrease, to the hazard of ruining Religion, and the whole Kingdom.

And you or any one or more of you shal in the name of the Lords and Commons require the Sheriffes of the said County to publish throughout the same the Declarations commanded to be published by both Houses of Parliament, and you, and every of you shall endeavour to cleere the proceedings of Parliament from imputations and aspersions, and shall from time to time certifie us of all things which you conceive necessary for the present service, and that we may have a speedy account of it, and that our directions to you, as well as your advertisments to us, may have cleere and speedy passage, you and every of you shal lay a strict charge upon all Postmasters and Messengers, that they doe not suffer any Letters or other dispatches to or from the Parliament to be intercepted or stayed, and if any shal presume to make stay of any such dispatches, you and every of you shal direct the Postmasters and Messengers to repaire to the Justices of the Peace, Constables and other Officers for their ayd and assistance, who are hereby required to take special care that there be no such interruption.

You or any two or more of you are hereby authorised and required forthwith to disarme all Popish Recusants, and other dangerous and ill-affected persons, as wel Clergymen as others, as have testified or shal testifie their ill dispositions to the peace of the Kingdome and proceedings of Parliament, and all such Armes and all other Armes formerly taken from Popish Recusants shal be imployed by you for the defence of the said County.

You or any one or more of you shal take care that none of the Re-

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culants Armes or other Ammunition of the said County shall be taken or carried out of the same, upon any pretence or command whatsoever, without warrant from both houses of Parliament. And you, or any one or more of you shall give order and directions to the Sheriffe of the said County, Justices of the peace, and other Officers, to require and command all popish Recusants in the said County to confine themselves to their dwelling places according to the Statute in that case provided; and if any such Recusant shal be found to transgresse therein, you or any one or more of you shal cause the Justice of peace forthwith to bind them to their good behaviour, and upon refusal or neglect to give security, accordingly to commit them to prison, and further proceed against them according to Law.

You or any one or more of you shal also in the name of both houses of Parliament require all such persons who have in their custody any part of the publique Magazine of the said County, to deliver the same to you or any two of you, to be disposed of, and imployed for the defence of the County; and in case of refusal, you are hereby authorised to seize, take, carry away, and dispose of the same for the purpose aforesaid.

And you or any two or more of you are likewise to give charge from both Houses of Parliament, to all Collonels, Captaines, Lieutenants, and all other Officers for the Militia, that they shal be observant to such directions as they shall from time to time receive from the Lord Lieutenant of the said County, or his Deputy, or any of them, for the due performance of any the commands of the said Houses.

You or any one or more of you shal resist and repell, and are hereby authorised to resist and repel by the power of the said County, and by all other waies and means, all such force and violence as shal be raised or brought by any person or persons, to the hinderance or disturbance of this present service, or for the arresting or seizing of the persons of you or any of you, or any other which shal be imployed in performance of the Ordinance, instructions, and commands of both houses of Parliament, for any thing done in execution thereof. And the Sheriffs and Justices of peace of the said County, and all other Officers and subjects, are hereby required to be aiding and assisting to you and every of you, for the better and more speedy execution of the premises.

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You or any two or more of you shall hereby with the consent of two of the Members of the house of Commons aforenamed, have power and authority to fortifie any part or place of the said County, in such manner and sort as you or any two or more of you, with the consent of two of the house of Commons as aforesaid shall think fit for the safety of the said County, and for the more security of the same shal set such severall Guards and forces in all places, and Towns of the said County, as you or any two or more of you, with the consent of any two of the said Members of the house of Commons, shal thinke fit and requisite; and to cause the Beacons within the said County to be watched, guarded, and fired as occasion shal require.

You and every of you shal take care to put in execution the propositions and Orders made by the Lords and Commons now assembled in Parliament, for bringing in money or plate to maintain Horse and Armes for the preservation of the publike peace, and for the defence of the King and both houses of Parliament; as also other instructions and additions for Deputy-Lieutenants which are Members of the house of Commons, and other Deputy-Lieutenants of several Counties concerning the last propositions according to a Declaration of the Lords and Commons made thereupon.

You or any three or more of you shall or may call together the Inhabitants of the County at such times and places as you shall think fit, and propound to them what Horse, Men, and Armes they will find and maintaine, or what money they will contribute for the defence of the said County, which Forces and all other Forces that shall be raised in that County by the authority of the Lords and Commons in Parliament, and their Officers, you or any two or more of you shall lead, conduct, and imploy for the defence of the said County; and you or any two or more of you shall have power to appoint Treasurers to receive the said Monies so raised, as aforesaid, who are hereby required to issue forth the same, as they shall receive Order or warrant from you or any two of you under your hands, for the providing of Armes and Ammunition for the defence and security of the said County; and also for the paying such Officers and Souldiers as shall be leavied and imployed for the purpose aforesad, and of all other necessaries for the defence of the said County.

You or any three or more of you shall or may in the absence of the Lievtenant of the said County make and appoint such Captains

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and other Officers as shall be requisite for the service and defence of that County, and to remove them out of their places and to make others from time to time, as you shal think fit for that purpose.

You or any two or more of you shal or may require strong Watches and wards to be set by the Constables or such other persons as you shall think meet in all convenient places in that county, for the peace and safety thereof.

You or the greater part of you, whereof two to be Members of the house of Commons, may joyn in assotiation with the adjacent counties for the mutuall defence each of others county.

You or any one or more of you shall or may apprehend all such persons as shall oppose you, or refuse to obey you in the premises, and to send him or them in safe custody up to the Parliament, or the Committee of Parliament for the defence of the Kingdome, to be proceeded with according to justice.

You and every of you shal observe and execute all such further directions and instructions as you shal from time to time receive from both Houses of Parliament, as likewise from the Committee of the Lords and Commons appointed to take care for the surety of the Kingdome, and whatsoever you shall do therein or any other person in ayd and assistance of you, it shall be accepted as good and acceptable service to the Kingdom. And for their and your so doing, they and you shal be defended and protected by the authority of Parliament, and resolution of the Lords and Commons to protect those that shal obey and further their commands, you shal publish and declare upon all occasions for the better encouragement of the subjects of this Kingdome in that behalfe.

FINIS.